

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **3 October 2006**, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-4, 7-14, 17-24, and 27-33. Claims 1-4, 7-14, 17-24, and 27-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ouchi (USPub 2003/0039455, hereinafter “Ouchi”) in view of Robertson et al (USPN 5,857,042 hereinafter “Robertson”).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Independent claims 1, 11, and 21 were rejected as being unpatentable over Ouchi in view of Robertson. Applicant respectfully points out that the combined system of Ouchi and Robertson teaches correcting misalignments of the elements by **aligning lenses** such that they are offset from the elements thereby focusing unwanted light away from adjacent elements (see Robertson, column 4, lines 1-54).

In contrast, the present invention uses **electronic steering** to correct mechanical misalignments between the elements (see FIG. 4 and paragraph [0037] of the instant application). This is beneficial because it eliminates a critical construction step required by the combined system of Ouchi and Robertson and replaces this critical step with simpler and more reliable electronic means. There is nothing within the combined system of Ouchi and Robertson, either separately or in concert, which suggests using electronic steering to correct mechanical misalignments between the elements.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 11, and 21 to clarify that the present invention uses electronic steering to correct mechanical misalignments between the elements. These amendments find support in FIG. 4 and in paragraph [0037] of the instant application.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 11, and 21 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also

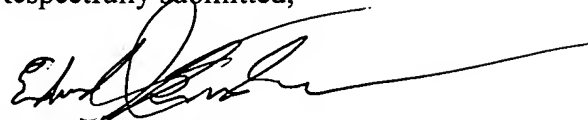
submits that claims 2-4, 7-10, and 31, which depend upon claim 1, claims 12-14, 17-20, and 32, which depend upon claim 11, and claims 22-24, 27-30, and, 33 which depend upon claim 21, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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